



ATTACHMENT B

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A pressure regulating valve for use in an aerosol spray can having a spray valve, in which the pressure regulating valve is used to lowers a pressure level, prevailing in the a compressed-gas-filled interior of the can, to a regulation pressure level at which the spray valve is desired to operates, ~~and~~ the pressure regulating valve has comprising:

a housing having a pressure regulation chamber which in use communicates with the spray valve,

a regulating piston, which is guided for movement in said housing and which in use is kept in equilibrium between a regulated pressure, acting on the piston face a pressure end of said piston located in said pressure regulation chamber and a restoring force, said piston also having a free end remote from the pressure end, and

a sealing point provided between the said regulating piston and the said housing, a sealing point is provided, which is closed when at a the regulating pressure in the said pressure regulation chamber is above the regulation pressure level of the spray valve, characterized in that and

a sealing means is provided, which is used for sealings off said free end of the said piston, remote from the pressure regulation chamber, at all times a) from the internal pressure level prevailing in of the can interior and b) from the regulated pressure in said pressure regulation chamber, so that in use the pressures acting on axial faces on the said free end of the piston are is at all times independent of the pressure level prevailing of the internal pressure of in the can.

2. (Currently Amended) The pressure regulating valve of claim 1, characterized in that the sealing point is provided in a middle region of the regulating piston, ~~which at that point preferably has an annular groove.~~

3. (Previously Presented) The pressure regulating valve of claim 2, characterized in that the pressure regulation chamber communicates with the sealing point via openings in the piston.

4. (Currently Amended) The pressure regulating valve of claim 2, characterized in that:
the housing is cylindrical,
the piston includes a piston shaft which is sealed off from with the cylindrical housing on both sides of the sealing point, and
a first seal, on one side of the sealing point, ~~a first seal~~ is provided as part of the sealing means on the free end of the piston.
5. (Currently Amended) The pressure regulating valve of claim 4, characterized in that the sealing of the piston shaft ~~from with~~ the cylindrical housing is effected with O- rings, which are disposed in grooves.
6. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The pressure regulating valve of claim 5, characterized in that the grooves are ~~embodied as~~ wider than the respective O-ring.
7. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The pressure regulating valve of claim 6, characterized in that the width of the grooves is selected such that the O-ring, in ~~the an~~ adjusting region of the piston, rolls essentially without friction on the bottom of the groove and the opposite sealing face of the outsides of the piston and insides of the cylinder.
8. (Currently Amended) The pressure regulating valve of claim 1, characterized in that the restoring force is built up by means of a restoring spring which is disposed in a closed chamber of the housing that is sealed off by the first-sealing means.
9. (Currently Amended) The pressure regulating valve of claim 8, characterized in that a spacer ~~sleeve or disk~~ for adjusting the spring prestressing force ~~can be~~ is disposed in the closed chamber.

10. (Previously Presented) The pressure regulating valve of claim 1, characterized in that between the piston and the housing, at least in one direction of motion, an axial stop is provided for limiting the mobility of the piston.

11. (Withdrawn) The pressure regulating valve of claim 1, characterized in that the piston diameter, viewed from the sealing point, is embodied differently in the two axial directions.

12. (Withdrawn) The pressure regulating valve of claim 1, characterized in that in the region of the sealing point, an annular disk-like sealing element or an O-ring-like sealing element is provided, which is fixed on the piston or the housing and cooperates sealingly with a shoulder or a face on the housing or on the piston, if the pressure in the pressure regulation chamber exceeds the regulated pressure level.

13. (Withdrawn) The pressure regulating valve of claim 11, characterized in that the cylindrical housing has two parts with optionally different inside diameters adapted to the piston diameters, and between them the sealing element is fixed.

14. (Withdrawn) The pressure regulating valve of claim 13, characterized in that in the region of contact with the sealing element and at least one of the two parts that fix the sealing element, a narrow annular ridge or protrusion for attaining a linear sealing action is provided.

15. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The pressure regulating valve of claim 11, characterized in that the O-ring- or annular disk-like sealing element protrudes radially inward into ~~the~~an annular groove provided in a middle region of ~~in~~ the piston.

16. (Currently Amended) The pressure regulating valve of claim 1, characterized in that the housing includes an inner housing part; for receiving the free end of the piston, and a cuplike outer housing part is surrounded by a cuplike ~~the inner housing part, said outer housing part which forms one part of the being used for forming a connection of between~~ the can interior and ~~to~~ the sealing point.

17. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The pressure regulating valve of claim 1, characterized in that ~~the sealing point is connected to the can interior by a neck~~ is integrally formed onto or attached to the housing for use in connecting the sealing point to the can interior.

18. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The pressure regulating valve of claim 1, characterized in that it has a neck, ~~an insertion sleeve or the like, with the aid of which it can be~~ which is connected in use to a neck of a spray valve either directly or by using a hose-like or tubular piece.

19. (Currently Amended) The pressure regulating valve claim 1, characterized in that on its ~~an~~ outlet side thereof leading in use to toward the spray valve, an overpressure valve is provided, said overpressure valve opening which above a predetermined limit pressure opens a cross section for supplying gas as during manufacture of the can to the aerosol-can interior.

20. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The pressure regulating valve of claim 1, characterized in that a throttle restriction is provided between the pressure regulation chamber and where the spray valve will be connected in use, ~~a throttle restriction is provided.~~

21. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The pressure regulating valve of claim 1, characterized in that the pressure regulation chamber is located in use on the side of the piston remote from the spray valve, and a connecting conduit that bypasses the piston laterally connects the pressure regulation chamber with the spray valve.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) ~~The pressure regulating A-valve unit to be built into an aerosol spray can of claim 1,~~ characterized in that further includes a spray valve ~~and a pressure regulating valve of claim 1 are embodied as a preassembled unit.~~

24. (New) The pressure regulating valve of claim 2, characterized in that there is an annular groove at the middle region of the regulating piston.